

VIII. APPENDIX

1. (Original) A wood cutting band saw blade that when cutting wood produces saw dust and forms a kerf, comprising:

a cutting edge defined by a plurality of teeth spaced relative to each other, and a back edge located on an opposite side of the band saw blade relative to the cutting edge, the plurality of teeth comprising a plurality of set teeth, each set tooth defining a tip, a bend plane, and a shelf located at least partially between the tip and the bend plane for reducing saw dust passing to the kerf and accumulating on the band saw blade.

2. (Previously Amended) The band saw blade of claim 1 wherein:

each of the set teeth comprise a relief surface and a cutting surface, the relief surface extending from one side of the tip in a direction opposite that of movement of the band saw blade and terminating at one end of an intermediate surface, and the cutting surface extending from another side of the tip; and

the shelf comprises a shelf surface extending from the cutting surface and terminating at another end of the intermediate surface.

3. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 2 wherein:

each of the set teeth has a dimension (S1) defined as the distance between the tip and the shelf of the respective tooth;

each of the set teeth has a dimension (B) defined as the distance between the tip and the bend plane of the respective tooth; and

a ratio of $S1/B$ is within the range of approximately 0.25 to approximately 0.75.

4. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 3 wherein the ratio of $S1/B$ is approximately .45.

5. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 2 wherein the shelf surface terminates in a shelf tip.

(Claim 6 canceled in Response to Office Action dated May 9, 2002)

7. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 3 wherein:

each of the teeth are set at an angle which is in the range of between approximately 1° and approximately 15° with respect to a transverse axis of the band saw blade; and

the dimension (S1) is within the range of approximately .06 inch to approximately .12 inch.

8. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 7 wherein the dimension (S1) is approximately .09 inch.

9. (Previously Amended) The band saw blade of claim 2 wherein a length (L1) of the shelf surface defined between the cutting surface and the intermediate surface is within the range of approximately .06 inch to approximately .1 inch.

10. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 1 wherein:

the shelf surface is generally planar and is disposed at an angle (A1) that is within the range of approximately 4° to approximately 10° relative to the back edge of the band saw blade.

11. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 10 wherein the angle (A1) is approximately 7° .

(Claims 12-14 were allowed)

(Claims 15-20 were canceled in Response to Office Action dated May 9, 2002)

21. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 1 wherein at least one tooth comprises a relief portion extending from the tip and having a relief angle (RA) within the range of approximately 0° to approximately 2° .

22. (Previously Amended) The band saw blade of claim 21 wherein the relief portion also defines a tangential angle (TA) within the range of approximately 3° to approximately 6° with respect to the side of the blade body.

23. (Previously Amended) The band saw blade of claim 3 wherein:

the plurality of set teeth each comprise a second shelf;

each second shelf comprises a second shelf surface, and each second shelf defines a dimension (S2) extending between the tip of the respective tooth and the second shelf.

24. (Previously Amended) The band saw blade of claim 23 wherein $S2=(B+S1)/2$ and S1 is within the range of between approximately .13 inch and approximately .16 inch.

25. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 9 wherein:

each of the plurality of set teeth comprises a second shelf; and a length (L2) of each second shelf surface is within the range of approximately 70% to approximately 90% of (L1).

26. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 25 wherein the length (L2) of the each second shelf is approximately 80% of (L1).

27. (Previously Amended) A wood cutting band saw blade having a lateral surface and generating dust during cutting of wood, the band saw blade comprising:

a base having a back edge;

a cutting edge defined by a plurality of teeth spaced relative to each other and being located on an opposite side of the band saw blade relative to the back edge, the plurality of teeth comprising a plurality of set teeth, each set tooth defining a tip, a bend plane, a dust gap extending approximately between an outer lateral point of the tip and a lateral surface of the base, and means located between the tip of each set tooth and the bend plane for reducing the quantity of dust passing through the dust gap and accumulating on the band saw blade.

28. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 27 wherein the means for reducing the quantity of dust comprises at least one shelf.

29. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 28 wherein the means for reducing the quantity of dust further comprises a relief portion extending from the tip of a set tooth at an acute angle to a transverse axis of the saw blade.

30. (Previously Amended) The band saw blade of claim 28 wherein:

each of the set teeth comprise a relief surface and a cutting surface, the relief surface extending from one side of the tip in a direction opposite that of movement of the band saw blade and terminating at one end of an intermediate surface, and the cutting surface extending from another side of the tip; and

the shelf comprises a shelf surface extending from the cutting surface and terminating at another end of the intermediate surface.

31. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 30 wherein:

each of the set teeth has a dimension (S1) defined as the distance between the tip and the shelf of the respective tooth;

each of the set teeth has a dimension (B) defined as the distance between the tip and the bend plane of the respective tooth; and

a ratio of $S1/B$ is within the range of approximately 0.25 to approximately 0.75.

32. (Previously Amended) The band saw blade of claim 31 wherein:

a plurality of set teeth each comprise a second shelf;

each second shelf comprises a second shelf surface, and each second shelf defines a dimension (S2) extending between the tip of the respective tooth and the second shelf.

33. (Previously Amended) The band saw blade of claim 32 wherein $S2=(B+S1)/2$ and S1 is within the range of between approximately .13 inch and approximately .16 inch.

34. (Previously Amended) A wood cutting band saw blade having a lateral surface and generating dust during cutting of wood, the band saw blade comprising:

a base having a back edge;

a cutting edge defined by a plurality of teeth spaced relative to each other and being located on an opposite side of the band saw blade relative to the back edge, the plurality of teeth comprising a plurality of set teeth, each set tooth defining a tip, a bend plane, a dust gap dimension extending approximately between an outer lateral point of the tip and a lateral surface of the base; and

means located at least partially between the tip and the bend plane for effectively reducing the dust gap dimension.

35. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 34 wherein the means for effectively reducing the dust gap dimension comprise at least one shelf.

36. (Previously Amended) The band saw blade of claim 35 wherein the means for effectively reducing the dust gap dimension further comprises a relief portion extending from the tip of the respective set tooth at an acute angle to a transverse axis of the saw blade.

37. (Previously Amended) The band saw blade of claim 35 wherein:

each of the set teeth comprise a relief surface and a cutting surface, the relief surface extending from one side of the tip in a direction opposite that of movement of the band saw blade and terminating at one end of an intermediate surface, and the cutting surface extending from another side of the tip; and

the shelf comprises a shelf surface extending from the cutting surface and terminating at another end of the intermediate surface.

38. (Original) The band saw blade of claim 37 wherein:

each of the set teeth has a dimension (S1) defined as the distance between the tip and the shelf of the respective tooth;

each of the set teeth has a dimension (B) defined as the distance between the tip and the bend plane of the respective tooth; and

a ratio of $S1/B$ is within the range of approximately 0.25 to approximately 0.75.

39. (Previously Amended) The band saw blade of claim 38 wherein:

a plurality of set teeth each comprise a second shelf;

each second shelf comprises a second shelf surface, and each second shelf defines a dimension (S2) extending between the tip of the respective tooth and the second shelf.

40. (Previously Amended) The band saw blade of claim 39 wherein $S2=(B+S1)/2$ and S1 is within the range of between approximately .13 inch and approximately .16 inch.

(Claims 41-47 Previously Presented and Withdrawn)

File History:

Application Filed: October 25, 2000

1st Office Action: April 12, 2002 (restriction/election of 1. claims 3-5, 7-14, 21-40; 2. claims 15-20; or 3. claim 6)

1st Amendment: May 9, 2002 (entered substitute spec; amended claims 2, 14, 22, 23, 24, 30, 32, 33, 37, 39, 40; cancel without prejudice claim 6, 15-20)

2nd Office Action: August 20, 2002

2nd Amendment: November 20, 2002 (amended spec/abstract; amended claims 2, 9, 12, 23, 27, 30, 34, 36, and 37)

Miscellaneous Office Action: February 12, 2003

3rd Amendment: March 14, 2003

Final Rejection: June 3, 2003

Telephone Interview: September 2, 2003 (Interview date: August 29, 2003)

Response to Final Rejection: October 6, 2003

Advisory Action: October 20, 2003

Notice of Appeal: November 3, 2003

Appeal Brief: February 3, 2004

Notification of Non-Compliance with 37 CFR 1.192(c): April 16, 2004

Amended Appeal Brief: May 17, 2004

Notification of Non-Compliance with 37 CFR 1.192(c): October 5, 2004

Amended Appeal Brief: November 5, 2004